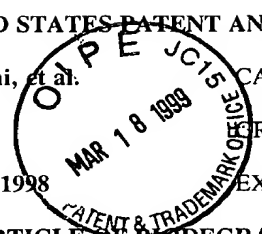


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Akira Ishibashi, et al. CASE NO.: P98,3017
 SERIAL NO: 09/210,539 GROUP ART UNIT: 1713
 FILING DATE: December 14, 1998 EXAMINER: --
 INVENTION: "FORMED ARTICLE OF BIODEGRADABLE RESIN"



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
 Washington, D.C. 20231

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S I R:

Submitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration in the above-identified application. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ [X] Within three months (1) of filing date of a national application; (2) of date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application; or (3) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last. (No fee is required.)
- ☐ [] After the mailing date of a first Office Action but before (1) mailing of a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113; or (2) mailing of a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first.
 - ☐ [] Payment of the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) accompanies this submission; or
 - ☐ [] The certification specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) is made below. (No fee is required.)
- ☐ [] After the mailing of (1) a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113; or (2) notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311 whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue fee. The certification specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) is made below. The Commissioner hereby is petitioned to consider the Information Disclosure Statement accompanying this submission. Payment for the Petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) accompanies this submission.
- ☐ [] The undersigned counsel for applicant(s) hereby certifies each item of information identified in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☐ [] The undersigned counsel for applicant(s) hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, or to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement.
- ☐ [] A check in the amount of \$_____ to cover any required fee is enclosed.
- ☒ [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 08-2290. *A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed for this purpose.*

Very respectfully,

HILL & SIMPSON
 A Professional Corporation

John W. Cornell
 (Reg. No. 30,619)

John W. Cornell, Reg. No. 30,619

Hill & Simpson, P.C.
 Sears Tower, 85th Floor
 Chicago, Illinois 60606
 Telephone: (312) 876-0200

When phoning re this application,
 please call (312) 876-0200.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C 20231 on March 15, 1999.

John W. Cornell
 NAME